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MRS. J. TRUE DODGE, 1846-1922.

One of the oldest native residents of Alton and member of a leading family, Mrs. Mary L. Sargent, wife of Capt. J. True Dodge, passed to her rest at 5:00 o'clock June 18, 1922, after an illness protracted through many weary months. In fact, she had been an invalid for the last three years, but it was not until the last few weeks that her malady assumed such serious phase as to preclude hope of recovery. The highest medical skill and careful nursing were powerless to check the advance of the grim destroyer. Nor did the unremitting care of her husband, who devoted his time and strength in efforts to save the life of the one most dear to him, avail to more than alleviate her condition. His devotion to her was wonderful in its self-abnegation, yet nothing was a sacrifice to him that held out any hope of relief to the sufferer.

Mrs. Dodge was a woman of rare culture and refinement, of keen intellect and vivid interest in the world around her. She was of an earnest Christian character which shone brightest in the faith and hope that illumined her last illness. She surveyed the close of her earthly life with calmness and serenity, knowing it was but the entrance to her Father's house. A beautiful patience and fortitude characterized her closing days possible only to those who realize that underneath are the Everlasting Arms." She was a consistent member of the First Presbyterian church.

Mrs. Dodge was a favorite in a wide circle of friends. Her education had been obtained in the Alton schools and at Cambridge, Mass. She was a wide reader of current literature and of the works of standard writers of earlier days. Her cultivated taste and judgment made her a discriminating critic of works of merit or the reverse. In her later years her reminiscences of early days in Alton and of the friends of her youth and young womanhood were of rare interest and a

never-failing source of pleasure to her friends in their relation. The Puritan virtues of her ancestors were perpetuated in her life, but softened and made additionally attractive by the graces of a wide and beautiful charity. She will be sadly mourned by the friends of a life-time, as well as those to whom she was united by the ties of kinship. In company with her husband she had spent much time in New Orleans and other southern and eastern cities which gave her a broad estimate of life in various sections of the country, but the greater part of her life was spent in Alton which was ever the home of her heart during the more than seventy-five years of her pilgrimage. She knew Alton in her girlhood, in times of peace and prosperity, and in the throes of the Civil War when her kindred and friends responded to the call to arms; and in her declining years she saw the younger generation take up the torch of freedom their fathers had handed down and carry it forward in distant lands.

Mrs. Dodge was born in Alton, August 22, 1846. She was the daughter of the late Benjamin F. and Susan Phinney Sargent, both scions of old New England families of colonial and revolutionary descent, who were pioneer residents of Alton and worthy exemplars of the virtues and fame of their ancestors.

She was married December 31, 1875, to Capt. J. True Dodge, with whom she spent nearly forty-seven years of congenial companionship, and who is now left lonely and bereft in his old age. In addition to her husband, she is survived by her niece, Mrs. Jessie Sargent McNiece, of St. Louis, and three cousins, Mrs. R. M. Forbes and Mrs. J. Wead of Alton and Mrs. William Graham of St. Louis, besides relatives in Boston and other eastern cities.

The funeral was held Tuesday afternoon, June 20, at 4:00 o'clock from the family residence on Twelfth Street, Rev. E. L. Gibson officiating.